

Message Text

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS:PFOR, SG, BE

SUBJ: VISIT TO SENEGAL OF KING AND QUEEN OF BELGIANS

1. KING BAUDOUIN AND QUEEN XABIOLA OF BELGIUM
ARRIVED DAKAR FEB 25 FOR OFFICIAL VISIT WHICH ENDED
FEB 28. ROYAL COUPLE ACCORDED ELABORATE HOSPITALITY
AND ATTN BY SENEGALESE, ESPECIALLY BY PRESIDENT
SENGHOR AND PRIME MINISTER DIOUF. BELGIANS BROUGHT
BEJART BALLET TO DAKAR FOR OCCASION.

2. IN EXCHANGE OF SPEECHES AT OFFICIAL BANQUET SENGHOR
LAUDED BELGIUM'S ROLE IN EURAFRICA AND IN FRANCOPHONE
ORGANIZATIONS AND BY INDIRECTION, APPEALED FOR BEGIAN
SUPPORT FOR AFRICA'S EFFORTS REDRESS ECONOMIC BALANCE
BETWEEN LDCS AND DCS. BAUDOUIN PRAISED SENGHOR AS
MEDIATOR, CITING PARTICULARLY PRESIDENT'S ROLE IN NEGO-
TIATIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE GUINEA BISSAU. KING ALSO
NOTED SENEGAL'S KEY SUPPORT FOR WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC
INTEGRATION. HE SAID PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP INCONCEIVABLE
WITHOUT SOLIDARITY AND JUSTICE WHICH WOULD SUPPRESS
OBSTACLES CREATED BY ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS
DOMINATING RELATIONS BETWEEN PEOPLES.

3. REPORTEDLY THE PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN KING AND
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PRESIDENT SEGHOR PRIMARILY CONCERNED BILATERAL CULTURAL

AND AID RELATIONS. TWO SIDES AGREED THAT AFTER VISIT OF BELGIAN DEL TO TAKE PLACE IN MAR, CULTURAL ACCORD WILL BE SIGNED. AGREEMENTS WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN NEGOTIATED BEFORE KING'S VISIT WERE SIGNED ON FEB 28. THESE AGREEMENTS CONCERNED HEALTH AID, AID TO TEACHER'S COLLEGE, AND AID IN LANGUAGE TRAINING. KING PRASISED ROLE OF SENEGALESE FINANCE MIN. BABACAR BA IN BRINGING ABOUT COMPROMISE AT RECENT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ACP AND EEC STATES.

4. COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER VISIT ANNOUNCED THAT BELGIAN MIN FOR REFORM OF INSTITUTIONS , ROBERT VANDEKERCKHOVE, (ACTING BELGIAN MIN OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, COOPERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT) AND SENEGALESE FORMIN ASSANE SECK HAD ALSO DISCUSSED BELGIAN AID. MINS AGREED THAT FUTURE BELGIAN AID WOULD EMPHASIZE AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THAT MIXED BELGIAN-SENEGALESE COMMISSION, WHICH LAST MET IN SEPT 1974, WOULD MEET AGAIN, IF POSSIBLE, BY JUN 30, 1975, "TO CONSOLIDATE REORIENTATION OF BELGIAN-SENEGALESE POLICY OF COOPERATION."
AGGREY

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